

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 545

By DuBois

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Head Coach Bruce Slatten and the Culleoka High School boys' basketball team on winning the District 11-A, Region 6-A, and Class A Sectional titles and advancing to the semi-finals of the 2007 TSSAA Class A State Tournament.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to recognize those members of scholastic sports teams whose dedication to excellence and success on the field of play serve as an inspiration to their fellow students, their communities, and the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Culleoka High School boys basketball team are wholly deserving of such recognition; and

WHEREAS, after compiling a very impressive regular season record, the Warriors of Culleoka High School won both the District 11-A and Region 6-A titles, and went on to defeat Eagleville 56-53 in the Sectionals to advance for the first time in school history to the 2007 TSSAA Class A State Tournament at Middle Tennessee State University's Murphy Center in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, Culleoka made sure its first appearance in the state tournament would be a memorable one by trouncing Cloudland High School 55-33 in the quarterfinals; the Warriors easily advanced to the semi-finals where they lost to Chattanooga School for the Arts and Sciences 63-57; and

WHEREAS, in the quarterfinals game, Culleoka led from the opening minute, hitting eight of its first eleven shots from the field to take a 19-6 lead; that lead never got below double figures; and

WHEREAS, Culleoka's Demario Williams, a two-time Mr. Basketball finalist, led all scorers with eighteen points; Josh Blade contributed twelve points, and C.J. Holt added eleven; and

WHEREAS, the Warriors' impressive defense held Cloudland to 27.7 percent from the field on 13 of 47 shooting, while its offense finished the game shooting 42.2 percent on 19 of 45 shooting; and

WHEREAS, the Culleoka players proved they had what it took to make it to the state tournament by their impressive play in the Sectionals game against Eagleville; Demario Williams scored eight consecutive points, including a 26-foot, three-pointer to spark a 13-4 half-ending run to give the Warriors a 22-20 lead in that game; and

WHEREAS, in the third quarter Antwane Beach scored six points during a 9-1 run that stretched the Warriors' lead to 31-21 at just over a minute into the second half; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Williams led the way for Culleoka with a game total of 20 points; David Spare scored ten points, and Mr. Beach added eight, including one of two free throws just seconds before the game ended; and

WHEREAS, entrance to the state tourney and its semi-finals competition stand as a testament to the able coaching abilities of Culleoka Head Coach Bruce Slatten whose guidance and mentorship both on the court and off has proven to be invaluable to his players; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Culleoka High School boys basketball team possess a dedication to excellence that has served them well both on the court and in the classroom, and they should be recognized in an appropriate manner; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Head Coach Bruce Slatten and the members of the Culleoka High School boys' basketball team upon their completion of a stellar season, their District 11-A, Region 6-A, and Class A Sectional titles, and their first trip ever in the history of the school to the Class A State Tournament, and their advancement to the state semi-finals, and we offer our best wishes for their every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.